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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 25X1 1. The head of the Soviet naval mission which arrived in Albania on 15  
25X1 December 1949 is Navy Captain F. Kaznatchiev. This mission will establish  
two Soviet naval auxiliary bases in the Adriatic.
2. A secret agreement was signed on 29 November 1948 by the Soviet Minister  
Chouvasin and Colonel General Enver Hoxha, in which the Albanian Republic  
places at the disposal of the Soviet Union the ports of Vlone and Lezh  
for a period of 25 years.
3. Auxiliary naval bases for Soviet warships in the Adriatic will be  
located in these ports.
4. It is of interest to note that in the agreement the words "military"  
and "defense" are not used. The agreement only mentions that Soviet  
ships are in Albanian waters. In paragraph 12e it is indicated that  
the same rights given to Soviet ships are to be accorded the ships of  
the countries which are allies of the Soviets.
5. The ports of Vlone and Lezh are not entirely at the disposition of the  
Soviet Union; however, some Soviet zones have been created. The Soviet  
zone covers the north of the Gulf of Drina and the localities of  
Shengjin and Mark Gjona. During the time of the Albanian-Yugoslav  
friendship and the military preparedness of the two countries, the area  
around Shengjin was to be controlled by the Albanian and Yugoslav navies,  
which signified a certain concession to Yugoslavia. Following the secret  
agreement, this area was given to the Soviet Union.
- 25X1 6. The port of Lezh, [redacted] is a poor choice. It  
25X1 is suitable only for fishermen today; the mouth of the Drina River is  
25X1 shallow and larger vessels cannot enter the small harbor. [redacted]  
[redacted] the Soviets do not intend to invest much in the port,  
but expect to make a base here for minesweepers and motor boats. There  
are two villages in the port's environs, located at the base of the Maja  
and Zeze mountains, about 20 kilometers from the Albanian-Yugoslav  
border. A modern road to connect the two villages is planned.

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